

years. Professor. M. G. Morris (1997, *Handbk. Ident. Br. Insects* 5, pt. 17a) records that it is not known from East Anglia and the East Midlands and informs me (pers. comm.) that he is unaware of any more recent records from this region. There is the possibility that the weevil was introduced in pot grown plants. Inquiries of local garden centres, from which I have purchased shrubs and herbaceous plants in recent years, indicates that most of their stock is either grown in East Anglia and Lincolnshire, or has been imported from Holland.— R. COLIN WELCH, The Mathom House, Hemington, nr. Oundle, Peterborough, PE8 5QJ.

A record of *Strangalia aurulenta* Fabricius (Col.: Cerambycidae) from Co. Kerry

On 22.vii.2001, a warm and sunny day, I took two specimens of *Strangalia aurulenta* (one ♂, one ♀) from felled alder (*Alnus*) at Dungeel, near Killorglin. This riverside locality was cleared of alder about ten years ago but some branches were left strewn about while the larger logs and roots were gathered into two small piles. Both specimens were very conspicuous and were located within minutes of each other, one on an isolated branch and the second on a log pile. As far as I have been able to ascertain, this appears to be the most westerly Irish record of *aurulenta*.

This fine species was first noted from Ireland by W. W. Fowler, *The Coleoptera of the British Islands* (1890, 4) from Glengarriffe, Co. Cork, a record repeated by W. F. Johnson and J. N. Halbert in *A List of the Beetles of Ireland* (1902). However, it was A. W. Stelfox who first reported it from Co. Kerry, in the article “Notes on the distribution in Ireland of the Long-horn beetles, *Straugalia auruleuta*, *S. quadrifasciata* and *S. armata*” in 1937 (*The Irish Naturalists' Journal* 6: 156-158), where he first found it in the east of the county near Kilgarvan on 31.vi.1935. Significantly, he also noted the species from Cos. Waterford and Wicklow. The *Ent. Record* for 1953 (65: 149-150) contains an article entitled “Some Notes on *Strangalia aurulenta* Fab.”, written by the lepidopterist, H. C. Huggins, who was a regular visitor to Ireland, to the effect that he had observed the species on the Kenmare side of Glengarriffe in 1950 and again in 1952 at Barley Lake, in the same general area. Both are Co. Cork records, but very close to the boundary with Co. Kerry.

R. R. Uhthoff-Kaufmann, 1988 (The occurrence of the genus *Straugalia* Serville (Col. Cerambycidae) in the British Isles. *Ent. Record* 100: 63-71) repeats the species known Irish distribution from Cos. Wicklow, Waterford, Cork and Kerry. M. C. D. Speight (1988. The Irish Cerambycid Fauna (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae), *Bull. Irish Biogeographical Soc.* 11: 41-58) included some previously unpublished records and suggests that *aurulenta* must be regarded as vulnerable in Ireland.

It would appear that the insect's south and south-western British distribution, as outlined by F. G. Twinn and P. T. Harding in *Provisional atlas of the loughorn beetles (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) of Britain* (1999) is mirrored by known records from Ireland. Stelfox had written “it is a powerful flier and for its bulk takes wing with alacrity. It would not be impossible therefore for it to spread in a district where cut timber is plentiful”. He had been unable to trace the species himself from any of the western parts of Kerry, but it is to be hoped that it is gradually expanding its

range. Possibly a distinct lack of native coleopterists, rather than the scarcity of the beetle itself, may be the reason for the paucity of records.— MICHAEL O’SULLIVAN, 20 St. James Gardens, Killorglin, Co. Kerry, Ireland.

Danish lepidopterist receives honorary doctorate from Russia

It is rarely that studies by an amateur lepidopterist earn academic recognition. Specially noteworthy therefore is the recent award by the Lomonossov University, Moscow of an honorary doctorate to Ernst Traugott-Olsen – a chemical engineer by profession. It stems from his independent researches on the taxonomy and phylogeny of the Elachistidae. Perhaps the best known and most widely used of his many publications is the monographic work with (the late) Ebbe Schmidt Nielsen on the Elachistidae of Fennoscandia and Denmark, published in *Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica* (1977). Dr Traugott-Olsen has deposited his collection of Elachistidae, complete with type material, in the Zoological Museum, Copenhagen. The original colour aquarelles of adults depicted in his publications are also in the museum.— JOHN BRADLEY, Conifers, Chard Junction, Somerset TA20 4QJ.

Clouded Buff *Diacrisia sannio* (L.) (Arctiidae), *Acrolepiopsis assectella* (Zell.) (Yponomeutidae) and *Adela rufimitrella* (Incurvariidae) three moths (Lepidoptera) new to Middlesex

Although relatively new to moth trapping, I have been running a light both at home and at work, in the London Borough of Ealing (Middlesex, VC 21), for the last two years. On 15 June 2003, I led a “Butterfly & Wildlife Ramble” over Horsenden Hill to look at the diverse wildlife there. Old maps show that the fields of Horsenden have been in existence since the 1500s. The Countryside Service has been managing them as hay meadows for the last 15 years and the resulting wildflower display is impressive.

Walking across Batts Field (OS grid reference TQ 159840) at about 10.30am, the party disturbed a male Clouded Buff *Diacrisia sannio* from the long grass. This distinctive moth was very fresh and in pristine. Later examination of Plant (1993. *Larger Moths of the London Area*) indicated that there were no previous Middlesex records for this species and an e-mail to Colin Plant confirmed this to be the case.

Amongst other moths recorded in the Ealing borough this year was an example of the Leek Moth *Acrolepiopsis assectella*, taken at m.v. light at Horsenden Farm (TQ 162840), in March 2003, and the small, green longhorn *Adela rufimitrella*, which was netted at Horsenden Farm, on 24 May 2003. Both were kindly identified for me by Colin Plant. Neither of these two species is listed by Plant in his provisional list of the microlepidoptera of Middlesex (2002. *London Naturalist* **81**: 123-186).

One further record of interest this year, was a single Kent Black Arches *Meganola albula* (D.& S.), which I took at mv light on Rockware Field, Horsenden Hill (TQ 156841) on 20 July 2002. The only previous Middlesex record for this species relates to one taken in Harrow in 1901 (*Trans. City of Lond. ent. Nat. Hist. Soc.* **11**:63).— RACHEL TERRY, Parks & Countryside Service, Horsenden Farm, Horsenden Lane North, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 7PQ.